

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 12185 040917Z

15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

NIC-01 IO-14 CU-04 OMB-01 SAJ-01 NSCE-00 DRC-01 /108 W

----- 022340

R 040746Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8881

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJ: KWEICHOW LEADERSHIP PROBLEMS

REF: A. HONG KONG 9278; B. HONG KONG 10005

SUMMARY. REHABILITATED LI PAO-HUA, THE CENTER'S LATEST ASSIGNEE TO THE KWEICHOW LEADERSHIP, HAS EMERGED AS SECOND SECRETARY IN THE PARTY THERE, LEAVING THE LONG-TROUBLED PROVINCE STILL WITHOUT A FORMALLY NAMED CHIEF. END SUMMARY.

1. KWEICHOW OPENED ITS WOMEN'S CONGRESS NOVEMBER 30, LEAVING SHANTUNG THE ONLY PROVINCE YET TO COMPLETE THE TASK OF ORGANIZING ITS WOMEN (NOVEMBER 30 BROADCAST). LIKE SHANTUNG (REF A), KWEICHOW'S LONG DELAY HAS SEEMED RELATED TO LOCAL LEADERSHIP PROBLEMS. THE TURNOUT FOR KWEICHOW'S WOMEN'S MEET INDICATED THOSE PROBLEMS MAY NOT YET BE SORTED OUT.

2. THE CONGRESS WAS ADDRESSED BY LI PAO-HUA, THE REHABILITATED

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PAGE 02 HONG K 12185 040917Z

ONE-TIME ANHWEI BOSS RECENTLY ASSIGNED TO KWEICHOW (REF B).

HOWEVER, HE WAS IDENTIFIED AT THE CONGRESS AS ONLY THE CCP SECOND SECRETARY. THIS IS A SURPRISE OF SORTS. LI HAD LOOKED LIKE A GOOD CANDIDATE TO BECOME FIRST SECRETARY; HE HAD A STRONG SUIT IN HIS BACKGROUND AS A FORMER PROVINCIAL CHIEF, AND AS THE SON OF MAO'S PEKING UNIVERSITY MENTOR AND A CCP FOUNDER LI TAOCHAO. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT LI'S CANDIDACY ENCOUNTERED OPPOSITION AT THE CENTER FROM THE MAN WHO REPLACED HIM IN ANHWEI DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, NEW PARTY VICE CHAIRMAN LI TEH-SHENG.

3. THE CONGRESS REPORT OFFERS NO CLUE AS TO WHO IS THE KWEICHOW FIRST SECRETARY. ONE POSSIBILITY IS LU JUI-LIN, A KWEICHOW SECRETARY AND PLA MAN WHO MOVED TO THE HEAD OF KWEICHOW'S LEADERSHIP TURNOUTS IN MARCH. LU, HOWEVER, DID NOT APPEAR IN KWEICHOW FOR THE WOMEN'S CONGRESS, AND HE APPARENTLY REMAINS IN PEKING WHERE HE HAS BEEN APPEARING OF RECENT. HIS SOJOURN AT THE CENTER, COUPLED NOW WITH THE IDENTIFYING OF LI AS SECOND SECRETARY WITHOUT REVEALING HIS SUPERIOR, COULD HAVE KWEICHOW CADRE WONDERING ABOUT DIVISIONS AT THE CENTER OVER A REPLACEMENT FOR PURGED KWIECHOW CHIEF LAN I-NUNG, WHO WAS DROPPED FROM THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE IN AUGUST.

4. OTHER ADJUSTMENTS IN KWEICHOW'S LEADERSHIP WERE REVEALED AT THE CONGRESS. WU HSIANG-PI, A MIAO ELEVATED TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE IN AUGUST WHO WAS A COUNTY-LEVEL SECRETARY IN 1966, WAS LISTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER LI. WU IS NOW PROBABLY A CCP SECRETARY. LI LI, A CIVILIAN PROVINCIAL PARTY DEPUTY SECRETARY LAST SEEN IN 1971, REAPPEARED ALONGSIDE THE OTHER DEPUTY SECRETARIES.

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